



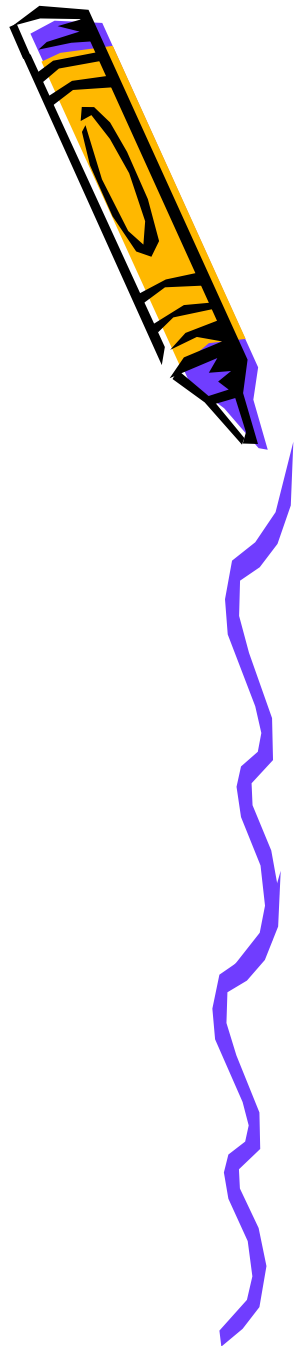
Rabies: What kids need to know!

Developed in cooperation with the
Massachusetts Department of Public
Health



What is Rabies?

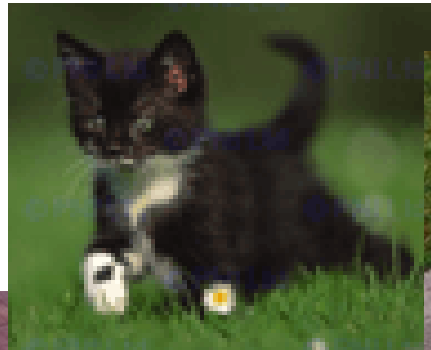
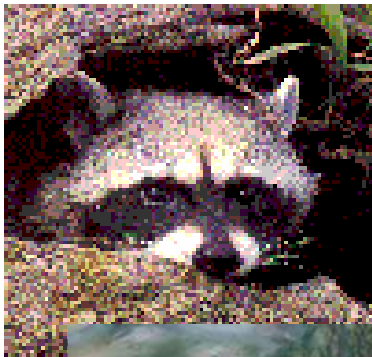
- Rabies is a dangerous disease caused by a virus
- Around the world, rabies kills 50,000 people and millions of animals each year



Any mammal can get rabies

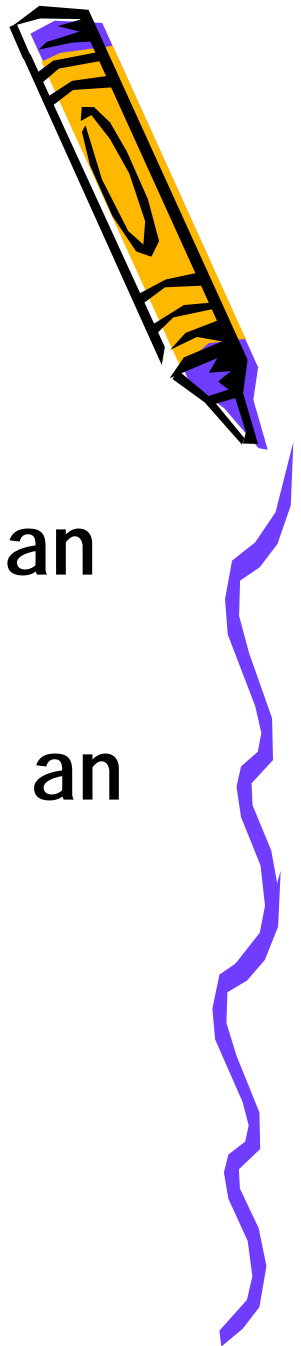


- Raccoons, skunks, foxes and bats
- Dogs, cats, cattle and ferrets
- Humans



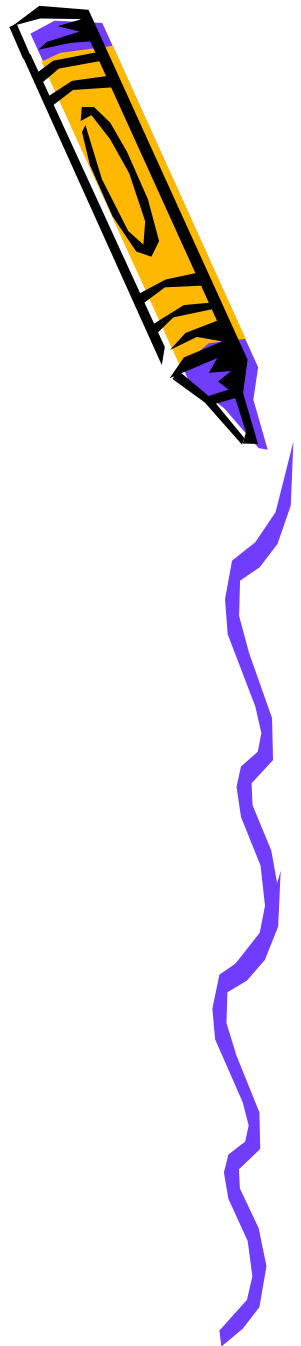
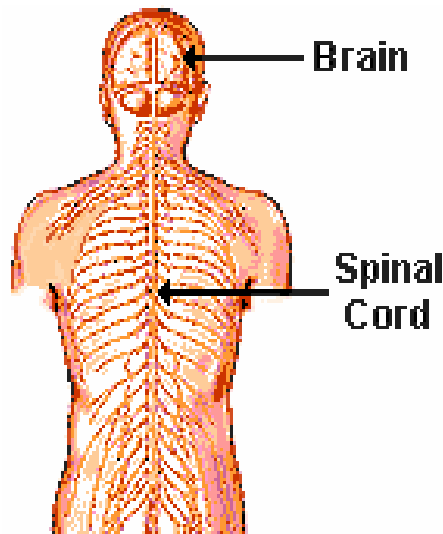
How do you get rabies?

- People and animals get rabies if they are bitten or scratched by an animal that already has rabies
- Rabies is carried in the saliva of an animal with rabies



How does rabies make you sick?

- Once inside the body, the virus travels along the nerves to the spinal cord and brain

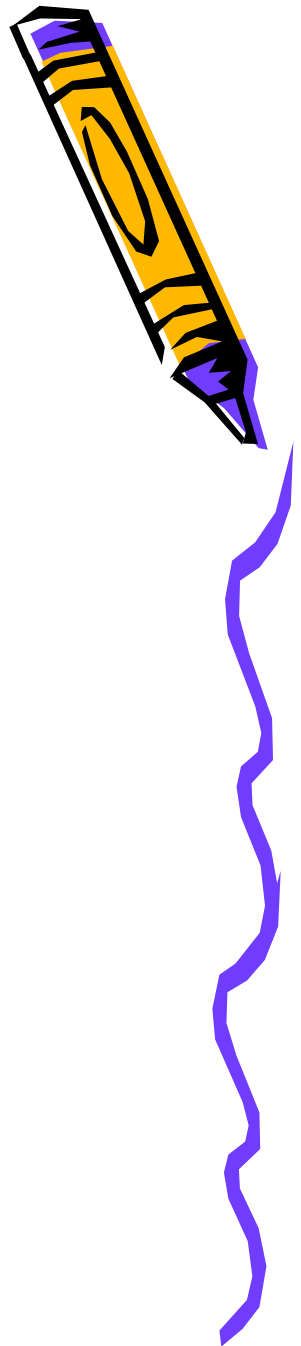




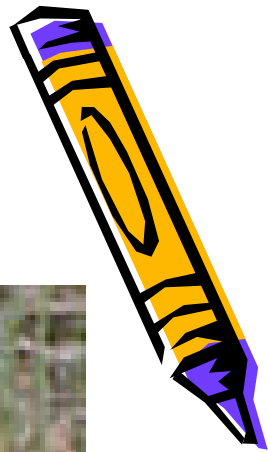
☹️ If a person or animal gets rabies, they will almost always die from it ☹️



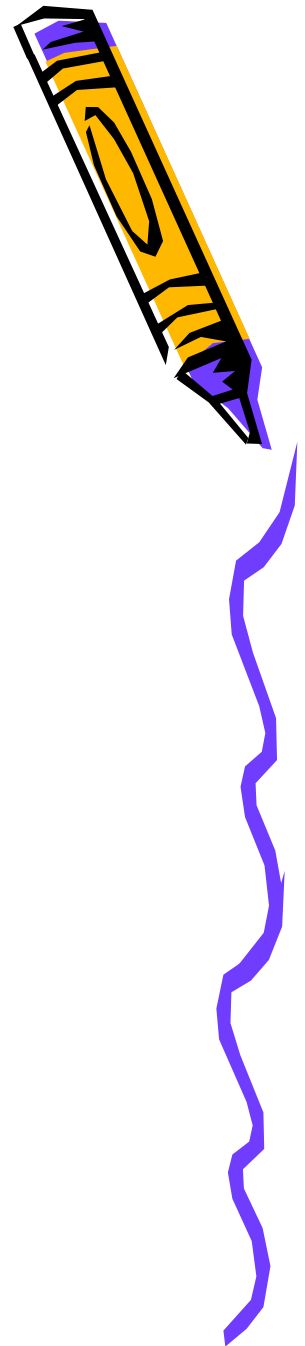
**Mammals that can
give you rabies**



Raccoons



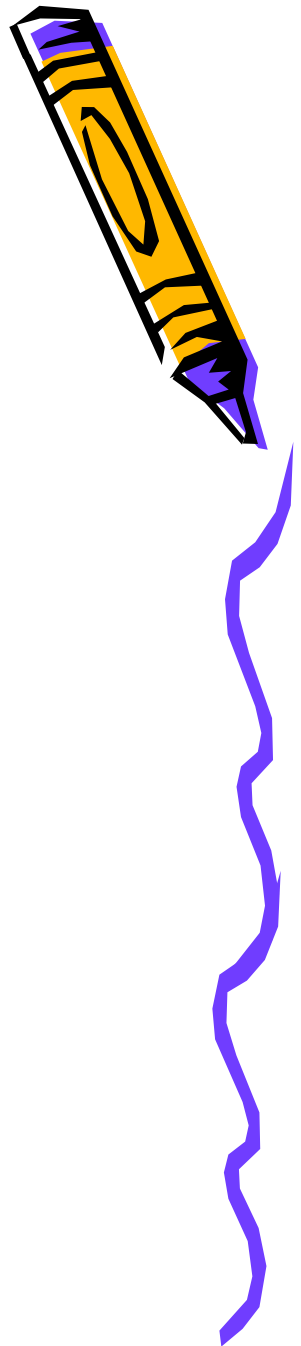
Bats



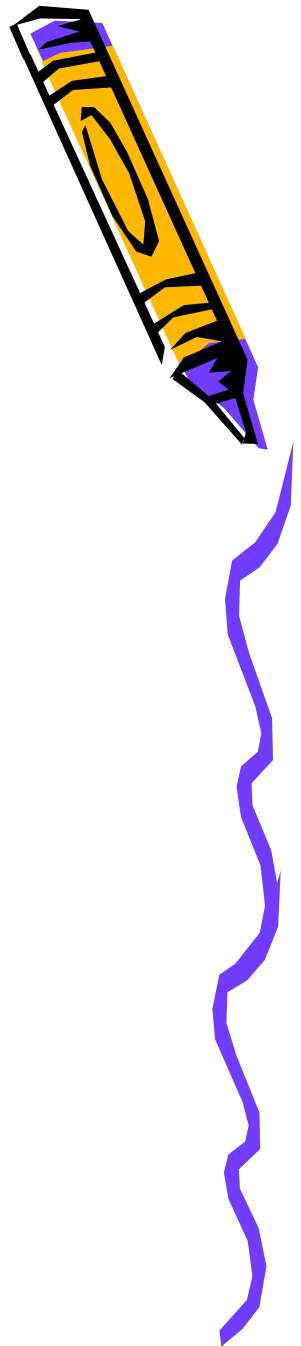
Foxes



Skunks



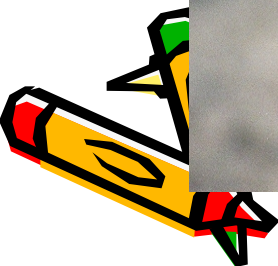
Ground Hogs



Cats-especially stray and unvaccinated

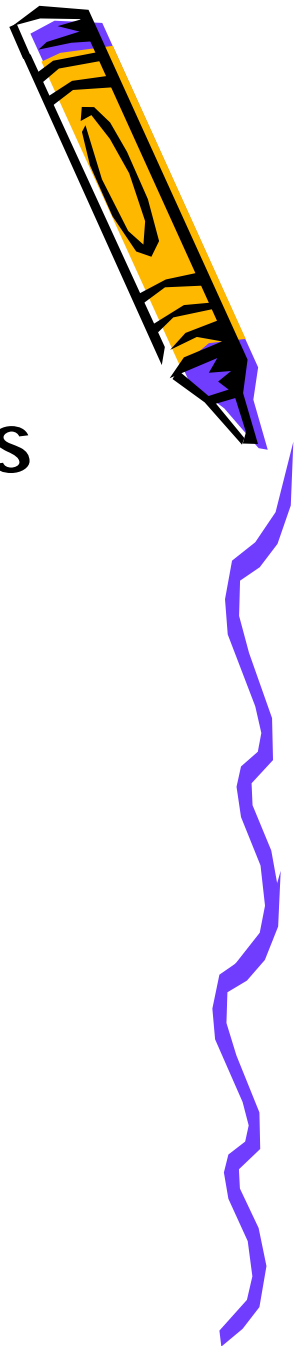


Dogs-especially stray and unvaccinated



Ferrets

- Many people have ferrets as pets
- They should be vaccinated for rabies



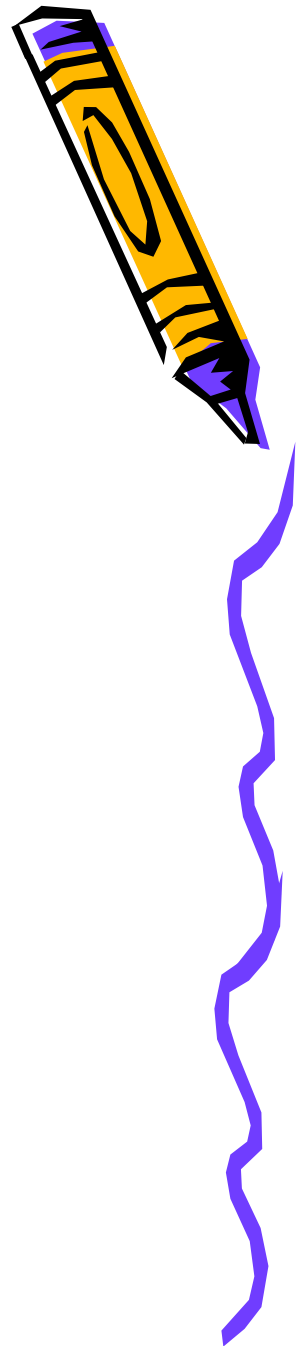
Mammals that are LESS likely to give you rabies



Animals that CANNOT give you rabies



How do you tell if an animal has rabies?



- Some animals may
 - act very mean
 - have problems walking
 - drool
- BUT.....



How do you tell if an animal has rabies?

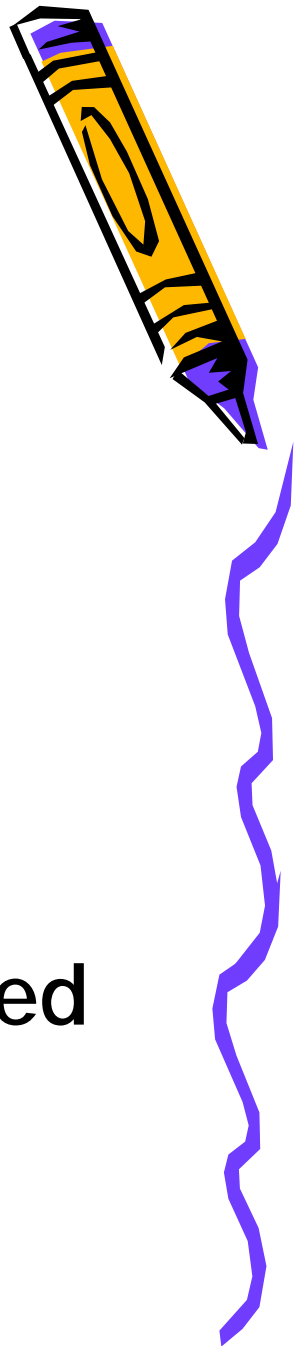


-it's important to remember that you can't tell if an animal has rabies just by the way it's acting
- Animals that appear healthy may have rabies

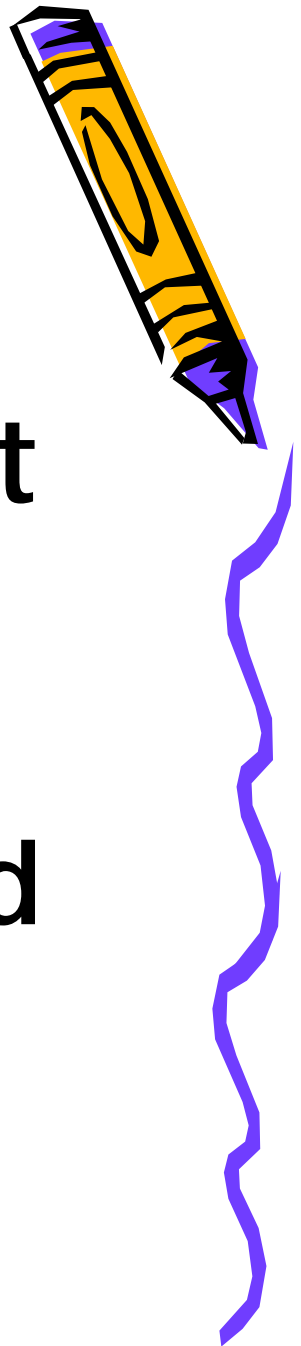


Rabies in Virginia

- About 500 animals per year are diagnosed with rabies in Virginia
- Raccoons, foxes and skunks are most commonly diagnosed
- Animals like bats, cats, cows, horses and dogs are also diagnosed



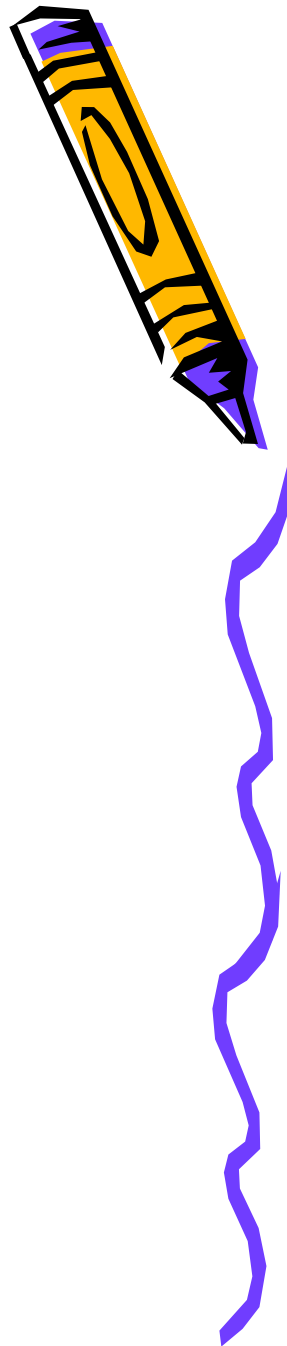
The best way to prevent rabies (in pets and in people) is to make sure your pets are vaccinated against rabies!!



Can rabies be prevented?

YES!!!!!!!

- Vaccinate your pets
- Stay away from stray animals
- Appreciate wildlife from a distance



Can rabies be prevented?

YES!!!!!!!

- If you are bitten or scratched by an animal:
 - Tell an adult immediately
 - Wash the wound out with soap and water
 - Call your doctor right away



Protect yourself and your pets

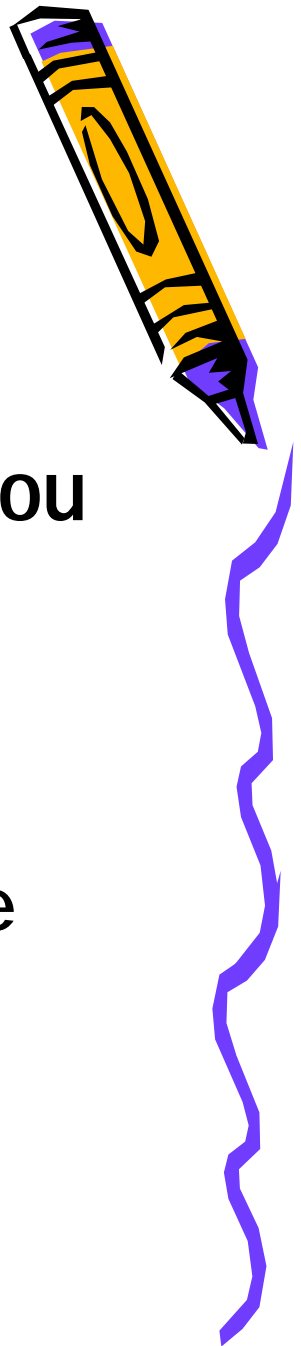


- Have your veterinarian vaccinate your dog, cat, or ferret
- If your pet is bitten by another animal, tell an adult and call your veterinarian right away
- Keep your pets from straying far away from your house



Protect yourself and your pets

- Help keep wildlife that can give you rabies away from your home by:
 - Keeping lids on trash cans
 - Storing pet food either inside your house or in closed containers outside
 - Feeding your pets inside or bringing their bowls in at night



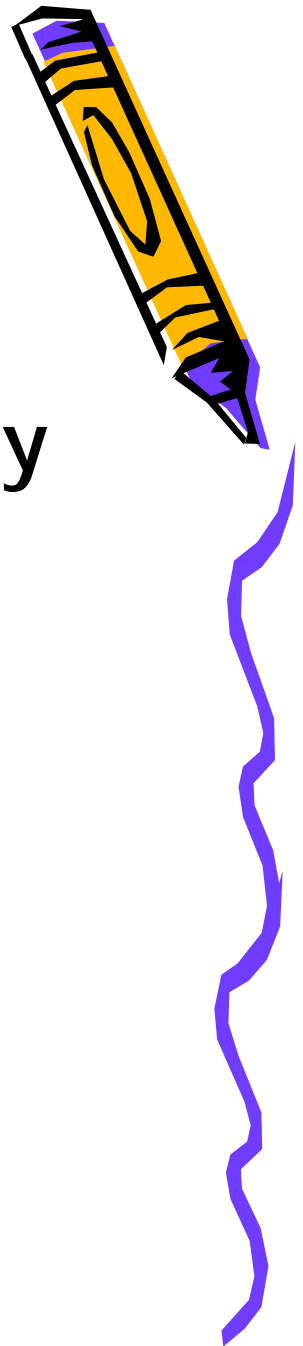
Protect yourself and others



- Never touch a stray or wild animal
- Always ask permission to touch someone else's pet
- Tell an adult if you see a wild or stray animal acting strangely
- Call an animal control officer if you find a sick or hurt animal



Protect yourself and others



- If you are bitten or scratched by an animal:
 - Tell an adult immediately
 - Wash the wound out with soap and water
 - Call your doctor right away



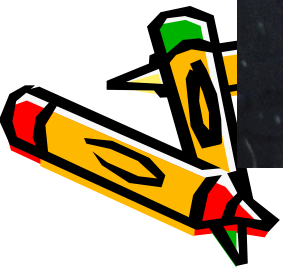
Rabies Quiz



Which of these
animals can give you
rabies?



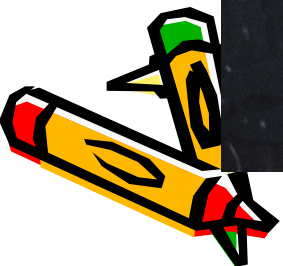
Dogs?



Dogs?



YES!



Raccoons?



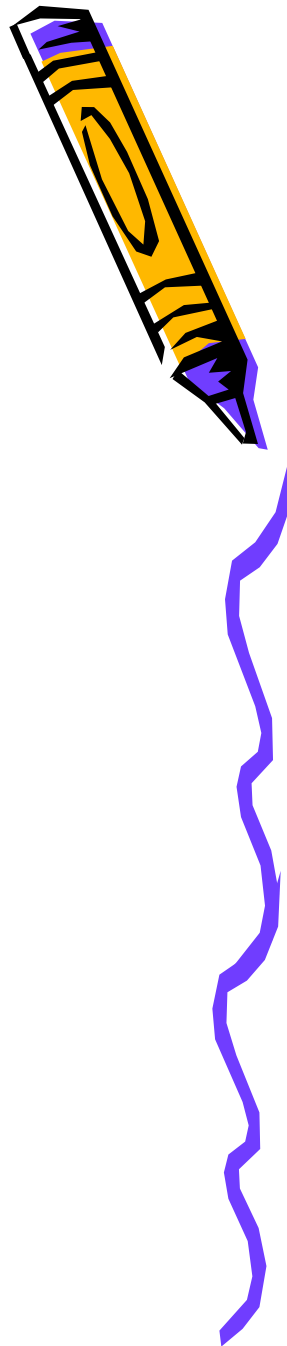
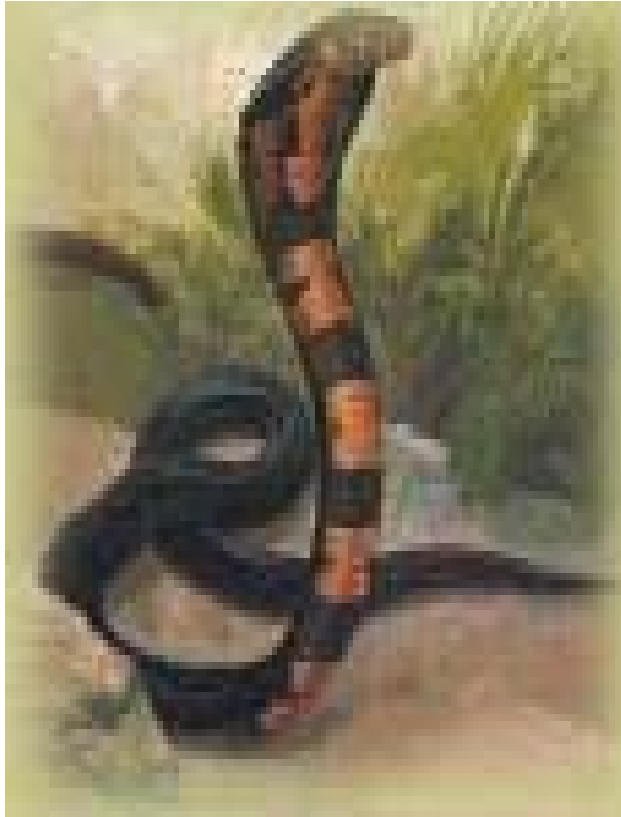
Raccoons?



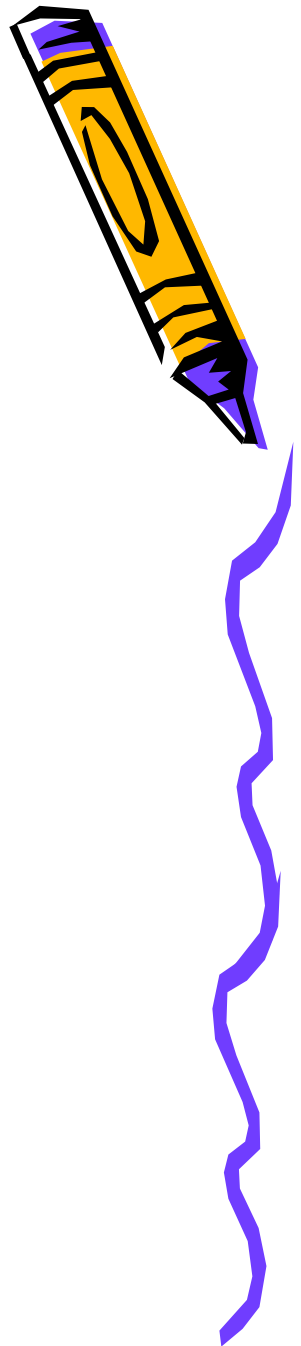
YES!!!



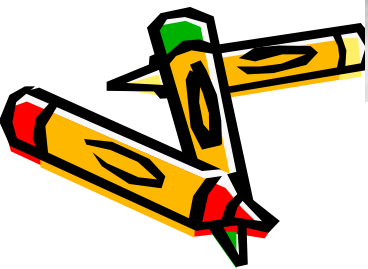
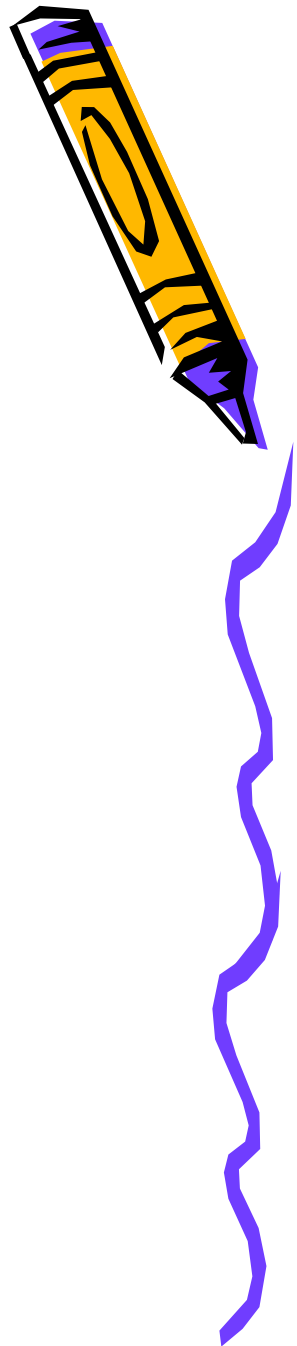
Snakes?



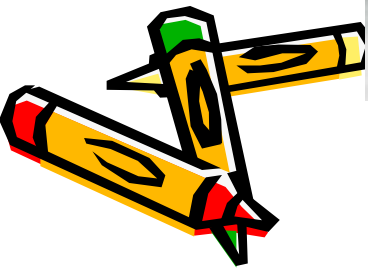
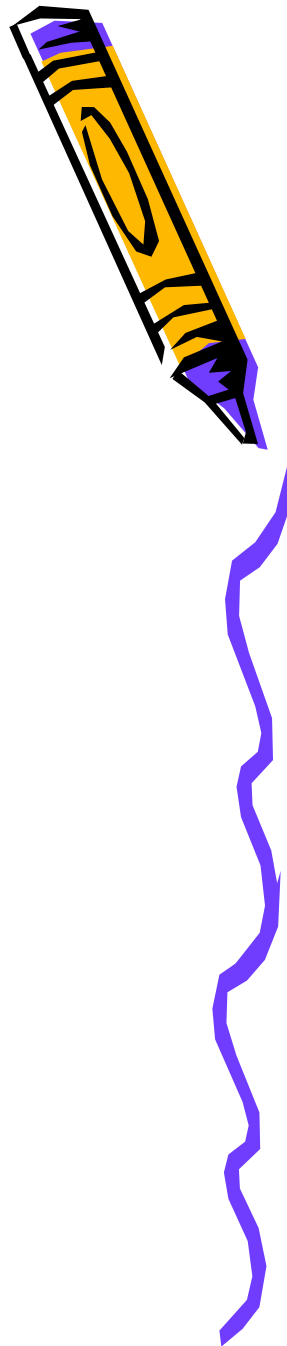
Snakes?



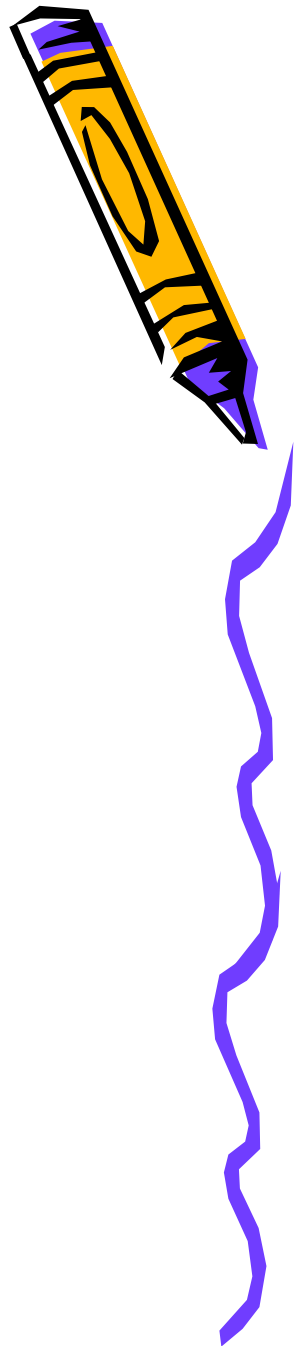
Cats?



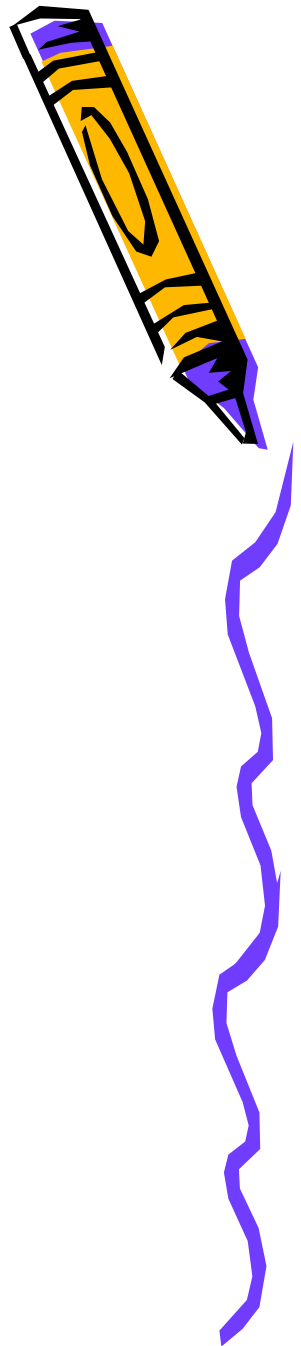
Cats?



Rabbits? (this one is tricky)

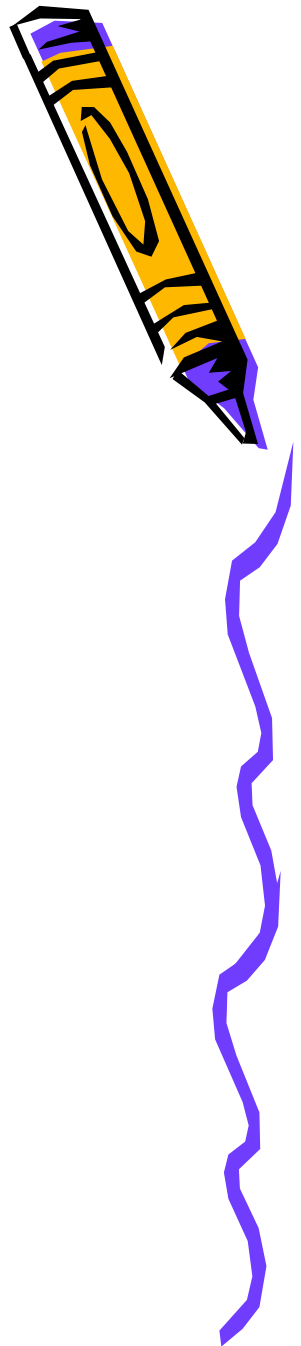


Rabbits? (this one is
tricky)



True or False?

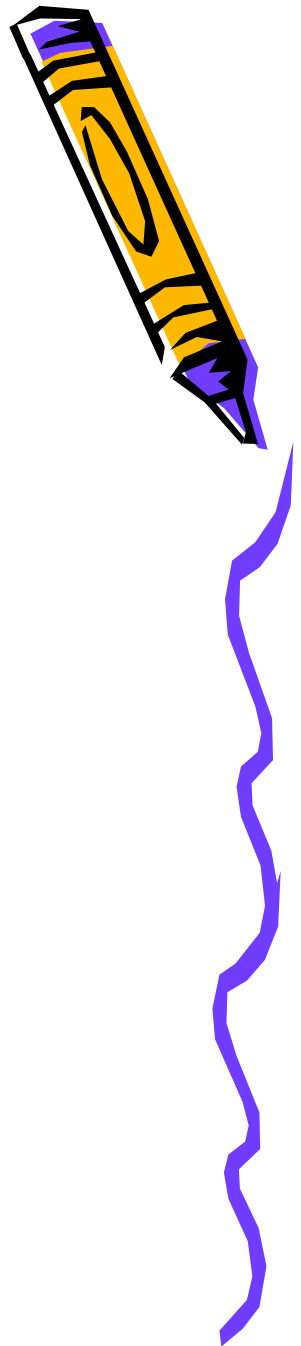
- Rabies is caused by a virus



True or False?

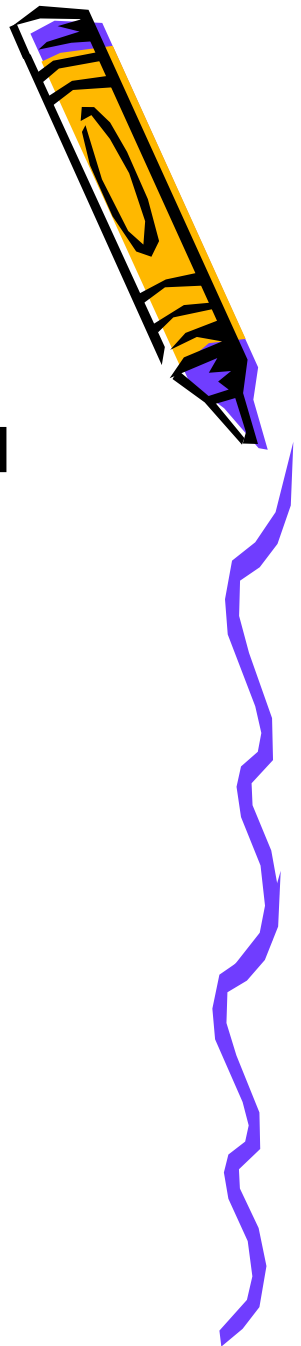
- Rabies is caused by a virus

TRUE!



True or False?

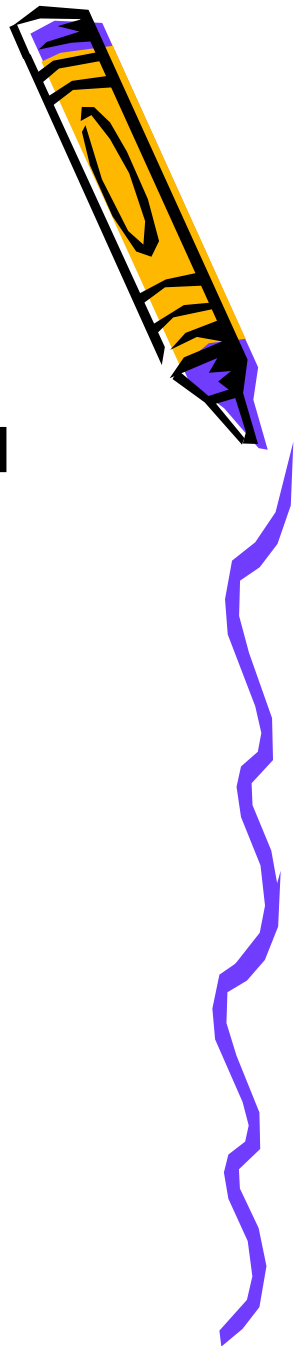
- A bite from a snake can give you rabies



True or False?

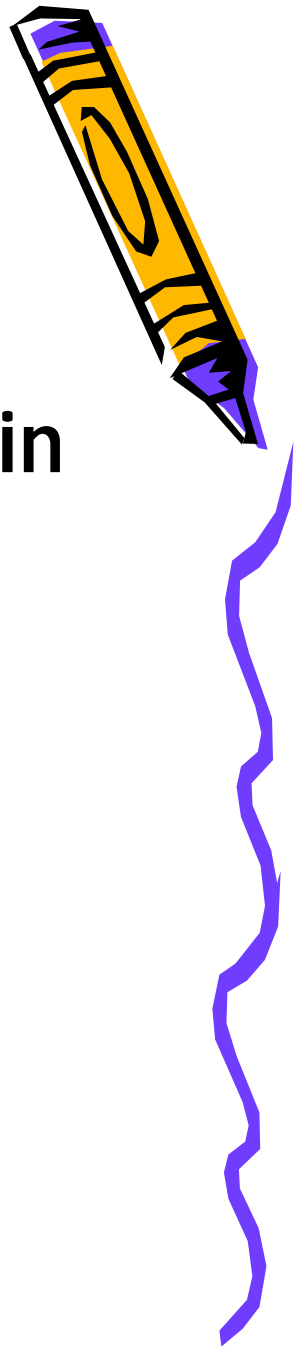
- A bite from a snake can give you rabies

FALSE



True or False

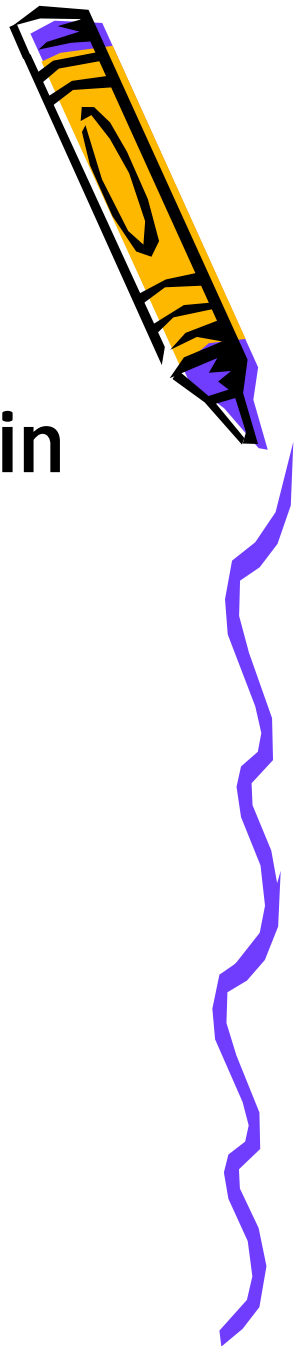
- The rabies virus affects the brain and spinal cord



True or False

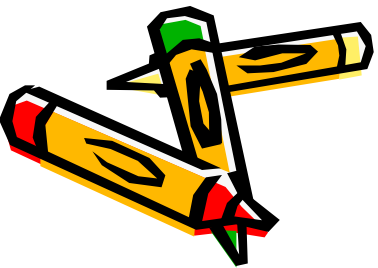
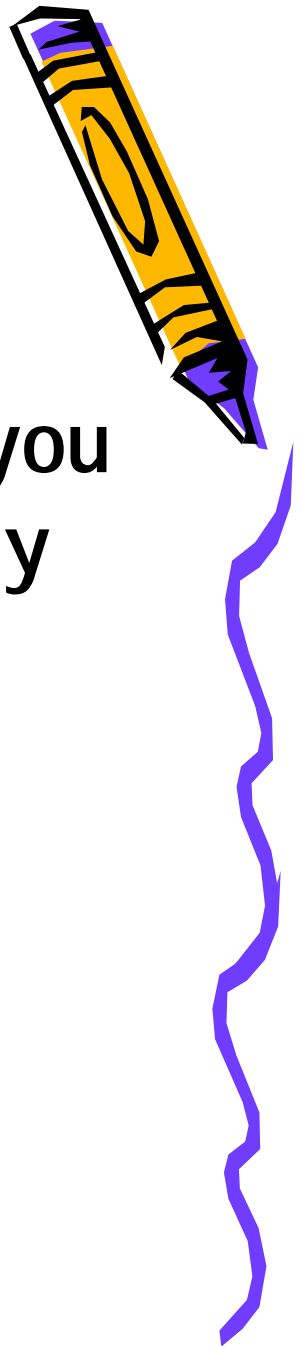
- The rabies virus affects the brain and spinal cord

TRUE!



True or False?

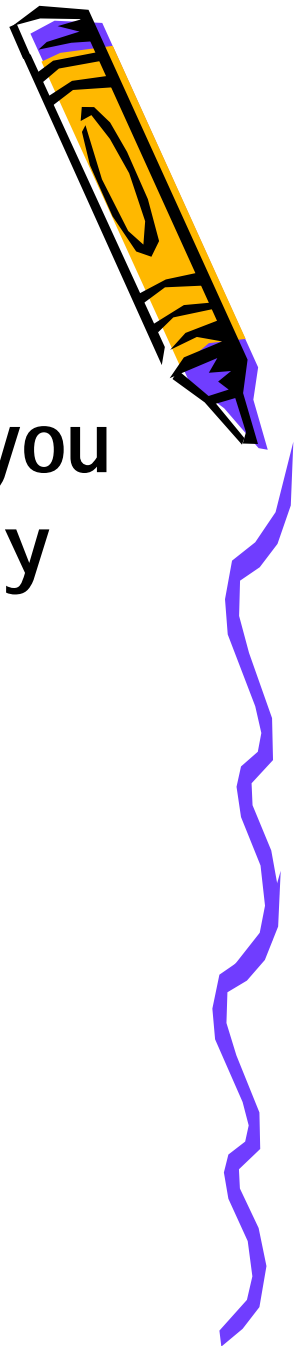
- If you are bitten by an animal, you should clean the wound right away



True or False?

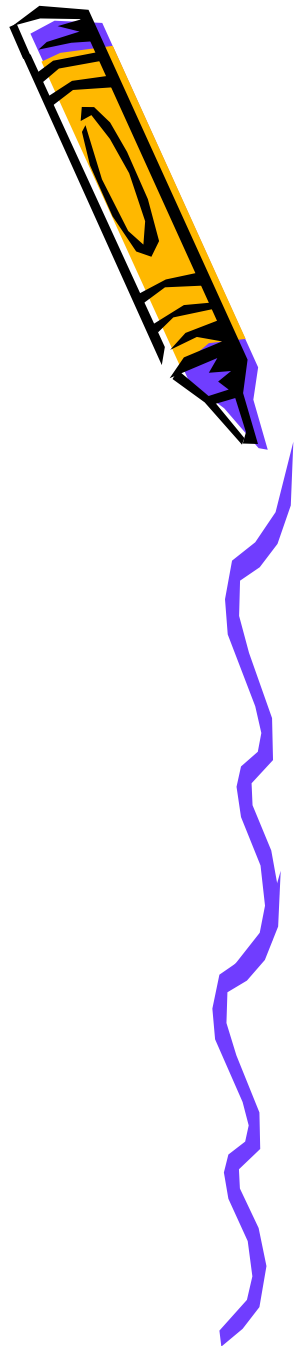
- If you are bitten by an animal, you should clean the wound right away

TRUE!



True or False?

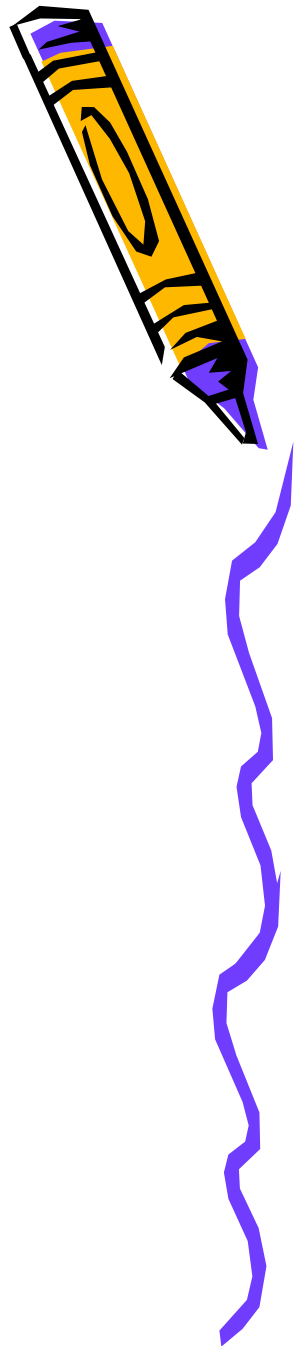
- People can get rabies from the saliva of an animal with rabies



True or False?

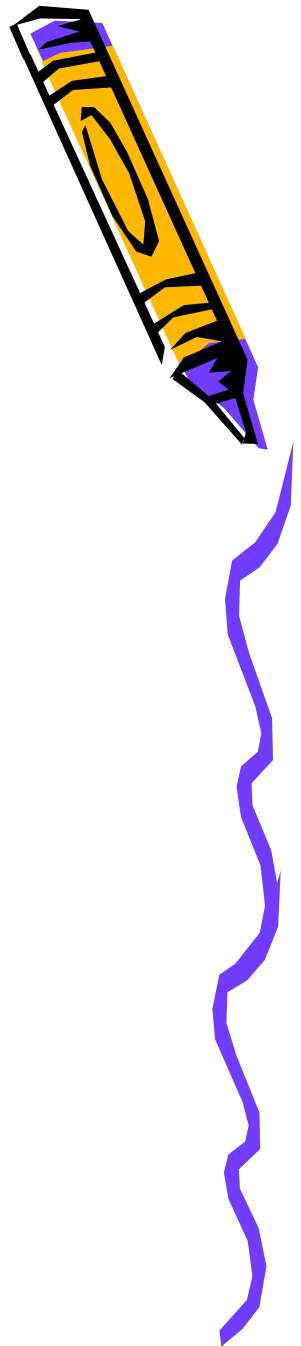
- People can get rabies from the saliva of an animal with rabies

TRUE!



True or False?

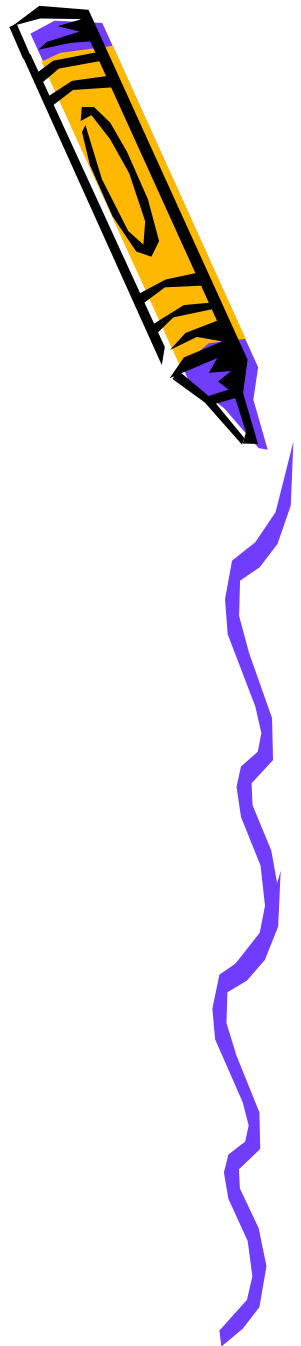
- You can always tell, just by looking, if an animal has rabies



True or False?

- You can always tell, just by looking, if an animal has rabies

FALSE



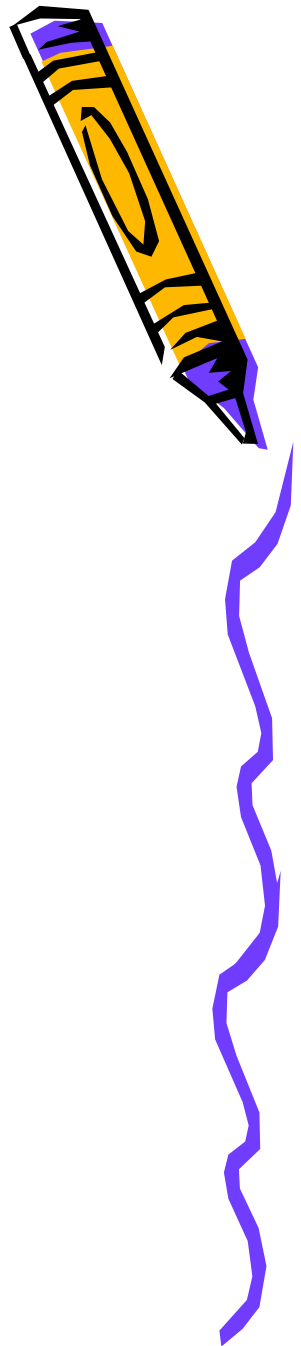
The best way to protect yourself from rabies is:

- A. Never touch stray or wild animals
- B. Ask your veterinarian to vaccinate your pets
- C. Tell an adult if you see a wild or stray animal acting strangely
- D. Keep lids on your trash cans



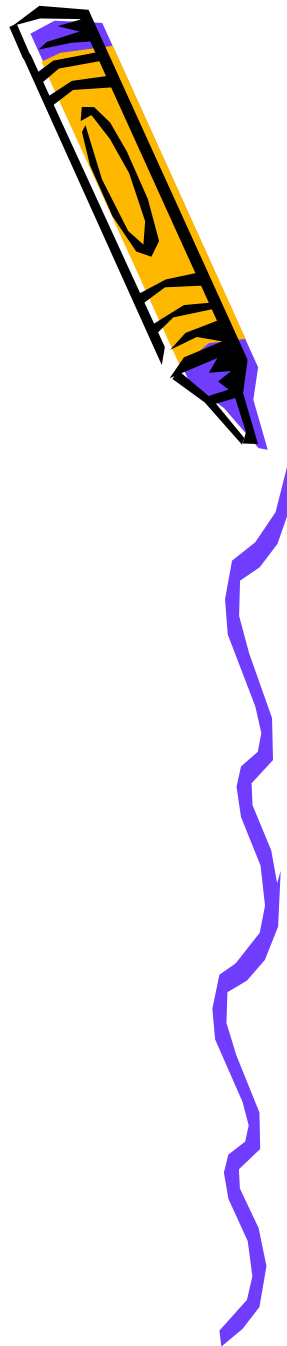
The best way to protect
yourself from rabies is:

**ALL OF THE
ABOVE!**



Learn more about Rabies

- www.cdc.gov
 - Kids Against Rabies page
- www.vdh.virginia.gov



THE END

